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They have to land now at Yambo, or, rather, at Lith, wherefrom they will reach the holy city of Mecca within five days. Stringent orders have been given to take the necessary steps in order to check the spread of the evil. Said steps are: The communications between Jeddah and Mecca are interrupted by land; pilgrims going to Hedjaz have to land at Lith; the inhabitants of Jeddah have to undergo ten days' quarantine at Abou Saad if they are going to Mecca, otherwise they have to undergo such quarantine at other lazarettos; the supplying of food to Mecca from Jeddah has to be made through Abou Saad; a medical mission, under the direction of the inspector-general, Dr. Cozzonis, will go to Jeddah; a sanitary physician will go to Lith, and another to Yambo.

I have the honor to forward at this moment the present report. Perhaps your excellency may deem it necessary to notify this interesting and at the same time sad news to the Department by wire.

Very obedient,

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO,
United States Sanitary Commissioner.

VENEZUELA.

Smallpox at Puerto Cabello.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Puerto Cabello, March 30, 1898.

SIR: I beg to report an outbreak of a mild form of smallpox within the past week. I have not deemed it of a character contemplated by paragraph 379, Consular Regulations of 1896. Should it assume a more serious phase I will cable the Department.

Twelve cases are now under treatment, and the authorities are doing all in their power to prevent its spreading.

Quarantine has been declared against this port by the authorities at other places, and we do not contemplate the entrance of ships, under the most favorable circumstances, for several weeks. Our mail will be sent via Valencia, Caracas and La Guayra to connect with the American Red D Line at the latter place.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

SAML. PROSKAUER,
United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

Smallpox at Valencia and Puerto Cabello.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D. C., April 15, 1898.

SIR: I have, by direction of the Secretary of State, the honor to quote the following telegram of the 9th instant from our minister to Venezuela:

"Twenty cases varioloid Valencia and Puerto Cabello; latter quarantined, but goods and passengers from both places being sent by rail to La Guayra for transportation to New York."

Respectfully, yours,

WILLIAM R. DAY,
Assistant Secretary.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.

AUSTRALIA—*Melbourne and suburbs.*—Month of December, 1897. Estimated population, 451,110. Total deaths, 919, including phthisis pulmonalis, 62; enteric fever, 14; scarlet fever, 1; diphtheria, 11, and measles, 6.